

Title: **PARTNERSHIP.ACCOUNTABILITY.TRAINING.HOPE (PATH)**

Purpose: The PATH program established on January 1, 2013, replaced the Jobs, Education and Training (JET) program. PATH is the work participation program required for families receiving cash assistance through the federal Family Independence Program (FIP) administered by the Michigan Department of Human Services (DHS).

Description: PATH is a partnership between the Workforce Development Agency (WDA), State of Michigan, the DHS, and the Michigan Works! Agency (MWA). Twenty-five MWAs operate PATH programs throughout the state. The PATH program features a 21-day application eligibility period (AEP) during which MWA's assess, evaluate and more effectively prepare applicants to attain employment, meet federal work participation requirements and work towards self-sufficiency.

The primary goals of PATH are two-fold. First, PATH will identify barriers and help participants connect to the resources they need to obtain employment. Second, the new program will help Michigan reach the federally mandated 50% work participation rate. Work participation is defined by how many participants secure employment and the number of participants engaged in job preparedness and search activities.

Eligibility: Individuals receiving Family Independence Program cash assistance (TANF);

Procedure: The WDA distributes federal TANF funds to the 25 local MWAs for the operation of the PATH program. Funds are allocated on an annual basis starting in October of each year. WDA and DHS provide oversight and guidance for the operation of the program.

Contact: Michigan Works! at 1-800-285-WORKS (9675) or the local MWA.

For General Program Questions Contact:

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